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REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 and 6-8 remain in the application as of the final Office Action. With this amendment, Applicant requests cancellation of claim 1, amendment of claims 4, 6 and 8, and the addition of new claims 12-15.

Claim 4 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated to be allowable over the prior art if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has hereby amended claim 4 to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1, thereby placing claim 4 in condition for allowance. Claims 6 and 8 have been amended to depend from claim 4. Accordingly, claims 4 and 6-8 are all in condition for allowance.

Upon review of the Examiner's stated reasons for finding the subject matter of claim 4 allowable, Applicant believes that the limitation of a flat wire cable is not necessary to distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art of record. In this regard, Whiting does not teach having a control device connected to a drain valve with a flexible wire cable, whether flat or not. Likewise, Hoover does not teach connecting a control device to a drain valve with a flexible wire cable, whether flat or not. As noted by the Examiner, Martin teaches a urine collection device with its controls connected by a cable to a backpack, but it still does not teach an electrically operated drain valve coupled to the drain tube of the urine collection bag. Carroll teaches the use of flexible wire cables to connect wearable electronic components, but there remains insufficient motivation to combine Whiting and Hoover with Martin and Carroll to arrive at the subject matter of new claim 12. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 12-15, which are identical to claims 4 and 6-8 save for the omitted limitation of a "flat" wire cable, are allowable for the same reasons given by the Examiner with respect to claim 4.

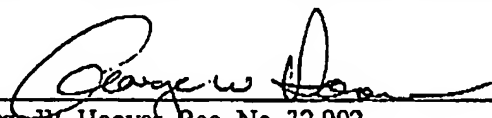
Based on the foregoing, Applicant requests that this amendment be entered in its entirety and that a Notice of Allowance be issued at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

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10/10/06

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

  
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